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KATTEN MUCHIN ROSENMAN LLP 575 MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10022-2585			EXAMINER	
			SINGH, HIRDEPAL	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/808,890	KANAYAMA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	HIRDEPAL SINGH	2611

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 December 2008.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the amendment filed on December 08, 2008. Claims 1-11 are pending and have been considered below.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection necessitated by the amendment.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 1-11 are objected to because of the following informalities: Claims 1, 4-8 use an acronym "TFO" without describing it in plain text, where it is used for the first time in a chain of claims.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dunne et al. (US 2003/0152152) in view of Koistinen (US 7,136,375).

Regarding claims 5 and 7:

Dunne et al discloses a data transmission system communicating between a first terminal transmitting second data formed by a second encoding system, and a second terminal for receiving information transmitted from the first terminal (120,122, 124 in figure 5) comprising;

a first data terminal for inputting said second data and outputting first data encoded with a first encoding system (paragraphs 0008-0009) in a first mode and third data multiplexing said second data and said first data in a second mode (paragraph 0031); and

a second data terminal for inputting said first or third data (paragraphs 0008-0009) output and outputting to the second terminal, in the first mode, fifth data formed by encoding said first data input with a second encoding system (paragraph 0011) and also outputting, in the second mode, said second data isolated from said third data, wherein when said second data terminal is in said first mode and said third data is input, a part of said third data where said second data is multiplexed (70 in figure 1) is replaced with the particular data and said particular data is outputted through the encoding thereof with said second encoding system.

Dunne et al discloses all of the subject matter as described above, except for specifically teaching that detecting TFO information included in the first or third data, and first and second operation modes are based on TFO information detected.

However, Koistinen in the same field of endeavor discloses a system and method for coding information transmission where TFO information is detected (tandem free in

formation is transmitted, abstract; 614 in figure 4) included in the first or third data, and first and second operation modes are based on TFO information detected (column 4, lines 32-40).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to implement teachings of Koistinen for detecting the transmitted tandem free information to be used by the Codec in Dunne system in order to enable a versatile selection of a way for data communication by extending the Tandem free operation over a packet network.

6. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dunne et al. (US 2003/0152152) in view of Sebire et al. (US2004/0120302) further in view of Koistinen (US 7,136,375).

Regarding claim 1:

Dunne et al discloses a data processing method for inputting data, the input data including one of a first data and a third data (paragraph 0008), the first data formed by encoding a signal with a first encoding system, and the third data formed by multiplexing second data formed by encoding the signal with a second encoding system and said first data (abstract; paragraphs 0008-0009 "first data is formed by first enhancement signal and third data is formed based on the third analyzer signal"; see figure 1), the data processing method outputting fourth data, the data processing method comprising the steps of:

providing a first mode (15 in figure 1) for inputting the first data, encoding the input data with the second encoding system and outputting the encoded input data as the fourth data (paragraph 0011, especially last 14 lines);

providing a second mode (paragraphs 0011 and 0026) for inputting the third data, isolating the second data and outputting the second data as the fourth data (paragraph 0030).

Dunne et al discloses all of the subject matter as described above and further discloses replacing a part of the third data where the second data is multiplexed with a particular data (paragraphs 0083-0086; and clearly stated in claim 6) encoding the input data including the replaced part with the second encoding system and outputting the encoded data (paragraphs 0021, 0024, 0030 and 0032) as the fourth data, except for specifically teaching that the method providing a third mode for inputting the third data; and detecting TFO information included in the first or third data, and first and second operation modes are based on TFO information detected.

However, Sebire et al in the same field of endeavor discloses a system and method where a method providing a third mode (abstract; paragraph 0041) for inputting the third data.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to input third data formed by multiplexing second data and first data and encoding the decoded data and outputting the data in order to get the quality of data signal with minimal degradation as the compressed signal is enhanced.

However, Koistinen in the same field of endeavor discloses a system and method for coding information transmission where TFO information is detected (tandem free information is transmitted, abstract; 614 in figure 4) included in the first or third data, and first and second operation modes are based on TFO information detected (column 4, lines 32-40).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to implement teachings of Koistinen for detecting the transmitted tandem free information to be used by the Codec in Dunne system in order to enable a versatile selection of a way for data communication by extending the Tandem free operation over a packet network.

Regarding claim 2:

Dunne et al discloses all of the subject matter as described above and further discloses the steps of:

determining if the input data is the first data or the third data (paragraphs 0008 and 0028); and

determining whether to process the input data in the second mode or the third mode when the input data is the third data (paragraphs 0029 and 0031-0032).

Dunne et al discloses all of the subject matter as described above except for specifically teaching that the method includes a third mode.

However, Sebire et al in the same field of endeavor discloses a system and method where a method providing a third mode (abstract; paragraph 0041) for inputting the third data.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to input third data formed by multiplexing second data and first data and encoding the decoded data and outputting the data in order to get the quality of data signal with minimal degradation as the compressed signal is enhanced.

Regarding claim 3:

Dunne et al discloses all of the subject matter as described above and further discloses that the first encoding system includes PCM (paragraphs 0005 and 0021) and the signal is an analog signal.

7. Claims 4, 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dunne et al. (US 2003/0152152) in view of Kapanen et al. (US 6,850,883) further in view of Koistinen (US 7,136,375).

Regarding claim 4:

Dunne et al discloses a data processing method for inputting data, the input data including one of a first data and a third data (paragraph 0008), the first data formed by encoding a signal with a first encoding system (abstract; paragraphs 0008-0009 "first data is formed by first enhancement signal and third data is formed based on the third analyzer signal"; see figure 1), and the third data formed by multiplexing second data formed by encoding the signal with a second encoding system and said first data, the data processing method outputting fourth data, the data processing method comprising the steps of:

detecting if the input data is the first data or the third data (paragraphs 0008 and 0028); and

determining whether to transition from a first operation mode to a second operation mode (paragraph 0031) for coding the input data, wherein when an operation mode is to be switched to said first mode or said second mode, a signal for resetting (paragraph 0029 "enabling and disabling the processors") a data processor (48, 50 and 80 in figure 1) for decoding the data output with said second encoding system (30 and 60 in figure 1) is added, before such switching operation, to said fourth data and is then outputted.

Dunne et al discloses all of the subject matter as described above including the preamble portion which doesn't have same patentable weight as positive limitations in the body of the claim, except for specifically teaching that a signal for resetting data processor for decoding data output; and detecting TFO information included in the first or third data and first and second operation modes are based on TFO information detected.

However, Kapanen in the same field of endeavor discloses a decoding method speech encoding processing system where a signal for resetting data processor for decoding data output (abstract; column 6, lines 64-67; column 7, lines 1-8).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to implement the teaching of Kapanen to reset the data processor for decoding data with a decoding system before switching to another mode in the Dunne system to make the switching between tandem and tandem free operation accordingly

as required with resetting and synchronizing quantizing to advantageously use tandem free operation system by providing predictive and generally non stateless encoders.

However, Koistinen in the same field of endeavor discloses a system and method for coding information transmission where TFO information is detected (tandem free information is transmitted, abstract; 614 in figure 4) included in the first or third data, and first and second operation modes are based on TFO information detected (column 4, lines 32-40).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to implement teachings of Koistinen for detecting the transmitted tandem free information to be used by the Codec in Dunne system in order to enable a versatile selection of a way for data communication by extending the Tandem free operation over a packet network.

Regarding claims 6 and 8:

Dunne et al discloses a data transmission system communicating between a first terminal transmitting second data formed by a second encoding system, and a second terminal (120,122, 124 in figure 5) for receiving information transmitted from the first terminal comprising;

a first data terminal for inputting said second data and outputting first data encoded with a first encoding system in a first mode (paragraphs 0008-0009), and also outputting third data multiplexing said second data and said first data in a second mode (paragraph 0031);

a second data terminal for inputting said first or third data (paragraphs 0008-0009), and outputting to said second terminal, in a first mode, fourth data formed by encoding said first data with a second encoding system (paragraphs 0008-0009) and also outputting said second data isolated from said third data in a second mode, wherein when an operation mode is to be switched to said first mode or said second mode (17 and 18 in figure 1), the data for resetting a data processor to decode the data output with said second encoding system is added to said fourth data and then output before said mode switching operation (70 in figure 1).

Dunne et al discloses all of the subject matter as described above including the preamble portion which doesn't have same patentable weight as positive limitations in the body of the claim, except for specifically teaching that a signal for resetting data processor for decoding data output; and detecting TFO information included in the first or third data and first and second operation modes are based on TFO information detected.

However, Kapanen in the same field of endeavor discloses a decoding method speech encoding processing system where a signal for resetting data processor for decoding data output (abstract; column 6, lines 64-67; column 7, lines 1-8).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to implement the teaching of Kapanen to reset the data processor for decoding data with a decoding system before switching to another mode in the Dunne system to make the switching between tandem and tandem free operation accordingly

as required with resetting and synchronizing quantizing to advantageously use tandem free operation system by providing predictive and generally non stateless encoders.

However, Koistinen in the same field of endeavor discloses a system and method for coding information transmission where TFO information is detected (tandem free information is transmitted, abstract; 614 in figure 4) included in the first or third data, and first and second operation modes are based on TFO information detected (column 4, lines 32-40).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to implement teachings of Koistinen for detecting the transmitted tandem free information to be used by the Codec in Dunne system in order to enable a versatile selection of a way for data communication by extending the Tandem free operation over a packet network.

8. Claims 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dunne et al. (US 2003/0152152) in view of Kapanen et al. (US 6,850,883) further in view of Koistinen (US 7,136,375) as applied to claim 8 above, and further in view of Sebire et al. (US2004/0120302).

Regarding claim 9:

Dunne et al discloses all of the subject matter as described above except for specifically teaching that the input data determining section determines if third data is inputted by detecting the synchronization bit of said multiplexed data.

However, Sebire et al in the same field of endeavor discloses a system and method where it discloses use of the synchronization bit of said multiplexed data (paragraph 0035).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to input third data formed by multiplexing second data and first data and encoding the decoded data and outputting the data in order to get the quality of data signal with minimal degradation as the compressed signal is enhanced.

Regarding claim 10:

Dunne et al discloses all of the subject matter as described above and further discloses that input data determining section determines that said third data is inputted by detecting the signal to be transmitted before said third data is transmitted (paragraphs 0008-0009).

Regarding claim 11:

Dunne et al discloses all of the subject matter as described above and further discloses that the input starting position (paragraphs 0072 and 0089) of said third data determined as input is obtained from the signal to be transmitted before said third data is transmitted.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Lehtimaki (US 2004/0254796) discloses a signal processing system and method where TFO request is detected and based on that a specific operation mode is selected.

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HIRDEPAL SINGH whose telephone number is (571) 270-1688. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (Alternate Friday Off) 8:30AM-6:00PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Shuwang Liu can be reached on 571-272-3036. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/H. S./
Examiner, Art Unit 2611
/Shuwang Liu/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2611